Application No.: 10/500,274

Amendment Dated March 28, 2008

Reply to Office Action of November 29, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 3,

wherein the electric power generation instructing means is configured for decreasing the electric power at the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased is made different depending on the change of the temperature of the fuel processor.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device as described in Claim 1claim 1, wherein the electric power generation instructing means is configured for decreasing the generated electric power is decreased at a rate with first rate within a predetermined upper limit first limit while the temperature of said of the fuel processor is rising but at unlimited and at a second rate having no predetermined limit while the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not rising.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell electricity-generating device comprising:
- a fuel cell <u>configured for generating</u> electric power from a fuel and an oxidizer,
- a fuel processor <u>configured for producing</u> the fuel to be supplied <u>into saidinto</u> <u>the</u> fuel cell from an electricity-generating material,
- a combustion device <u>configured for</u> combusting a residual fuel gas unconsumed <u>in saidin the</u> fuel cell to <u>raise the raise a</u> temperature <u>of saidof the</u> fuel processor, and

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an electric power generation instructing means of determining the electric power generated by saidby the fuel cell, wherein when saidthe electric power generation instructing means decreases configured for decreasing the electric power generated by saidby the fuel cell depending on the on a decrease of load power to be supplied by the fuel cell, the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased electric power generation instructing means configured for decreasing the electric power generated by the fuel cell at a rate depending on one of a) the change change of the temperature of the fuel processor[[;]] and b) the temperature of the fuel processor.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 3 wherein the electric power generation instructing means is further configured to execute a first power limitation mode of preventing the decrease of generated electric power is executed when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not lower than a first threshold value and the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased is not limited when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not higher than a second threshold value which is lower than the first threshold value.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 4 wherein the electric power generation instructing means is further configured to release said first the first power limitation mode is released when saidwhen the electric power generation instructing means maintains or begins to raise the electric power generated by saidby the fuel cell.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 3 wherein the electric power generation instructing means is further configured to execute a second power limitation mode of decreasing the generated electric power at a rate with a predetermined upper limit is executed when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not lower than a third threshold value, and the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased is not limited when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not higher than a fourth threshold value which is lower than the third threshold value.

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7. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 6 wherein the electric power generation instructing means is further configured to release said second the second power limitation mode is

released when saidwhen the electric power generation instructing means maintains or begins to raise the electric power generated by saidby the fuel cell.

8. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 3 wherein the electric power generation instructing means is further configured to execute (i) a first power limitation mode of preventing the decrease of generated electric power is executed when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not lower than the first threshold value[[,]] and (ii) a second power limitation mode of decreasing the generated electric power at a rate with a predetermined upper limit is executed when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not higher than the second threshold value, which is lower than said than the first threshold value and value, wherein the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased is not limited when the temperature of said of the fuel processor is not higher than the than a fourth threshold value which is lower than the second threshold value.

- 9. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 8 wherein the electric power generation instructing means is further configured to release both of saidof the first and second power limitation modes are released when saidwhen the electric power generation instructing means maintains or begins to raise the electric power generated by saidby the fuel cell.
- 10. (Withdrawn) A fuel cell electricity-generating method of generating electricity using a fuel cell comprising the steps of:

generating electric power in said fuel cell from a fuel and an oxidizer,

producing in a fuel processor a fuel to be supplied into said fuel cell from an electricity-generating material,

combusting a residual fuel gas unconsumed in said fuel cell to raise the temperature of said fuel processor, and

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determining in an electric power generation instructing means the electric power generated by said fuel cell,

wherein there is provided a step of making the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased different depending on the change of the temperature of the fuel processor when said electric power generation instructing means decreases the electric power generated by said fuel cell depending on the decrease of load power to be supplied.

11. (Withdrawn) A fuel cell electricity-generating method of generating electricity using a fuel cell comprising the steps of:

generating electric power in said fuel cell from a fuel and an oxidizer,

producing in a fuel processor a fuel to be supplied into said fuel cell from an electricity-generating material,

combusting a residual fuel gas unconsumed in said fuel cell to raise the temperature of said fuel processor, and

determining in an electric power generation instructing means the electric power generated by said fuel cell,

wherein there is provided a step of making the rate at which the generated electric power is decreased different depending on the temperature of the fuel processor when said electric power generation instructing means decreases the electric power generated by said fuel cell depending on the decrease of load power to be supplied.

12. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell electricity-generating device according to claim 3, wherein the rate at which the generated electric power-is decreased is made different depending depends on the temperature of the fuel processor.